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## **Navajo President Shelly Says LCR Settlement Would Provide Safe Drinking Water**

**WINDOW ROCK, Ariz.** – Navajo Nation President Ben Shelly said concern for Navajo people's health is another reason he supports the Little Colorado River Water Settlement.

"Our people are drinking from wells that may not be safe for drinking. We have to take this opportunity to get our people safe drinking water. The settlement will help us build water lines that would do that for our people," President Shelly said.

About 30 percent of Navajo homes don't have access to safe drinking water, according to information provided by the Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency.

In addition, the NNEPA regulates more than 160 water public water systems to ensure the safety of the water, but does not regulate livestock wells or natural springs.

"There are many conditions that can lead to unsafe water," President Shelly said.

Some conditions maybe poor storage containers and poor water sources.

The NNEPA stated some unregulated water sources contain natural minerals like arsenic, uranium and magnesium. Also, unregulated sources of water could contain bacteria such as e. coli, fecal coliform and other viruses.

"We need to create more access to clean drinking water for our children. Our children are drinking this water and we need to do what we can to get them clean drinking water. We can do that with the Little Colorado River Water Settlement. We need to think about them, our children. They are our future," President Shelly said.

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